

UNITED PRESS
INTERNATIONAL

JANUARY 30, 1962

UPI-207

ADD 1 MCCONE WASHINGTON (UPI-141)

SEN. STUART SYMINGTON, D-MO., SAID MCCONE HAD BEEN CLEARED OF ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST BY THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY'S GENERAL COUNCIL BEFORE THE WEALTHY CALIFORNIA REPUBLICAN TOOK OVER AS CIA DIRECTOR.

SYMINGTON TOOK THE FLOOR TO DEFEND MCCONE AFTER SEN. JOSEPH S. CLARK, D-BA., CHARGED THAT MCCONE'S BIG HOLDINGS IN A CALIFORNIA OIL COMPANY "VIOLATE THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATUTES." CLARK SAID HE ALSO WOULD VOTE AGAINST MCCONE'S NOMINATION TOMORROW BECAUSE HE DID NOT THINK THE NOMINEE HAD THE "JUDICIAL TEMPERAMENT" TO HEAD THE HUSH-HUSH INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

MANSFIELD TOLD THE SENATE THAT MCCONE SHOULD BE CONFIRMED BECAUSE HE HAS "PROVED TO BE A MOST EFFICIENT, MOST EFFECTIVE AND PATRIOTIC SERVANT OF HIS GOVERNMENT" AS CHAIRMAN OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION UNDER PRESIDENT EISENHOWER AND UNDERSECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER PRESIDENT TRUMAN.

THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER SAID HE HOPED CONGRESS ALSO WOULD FIND SOME WAY TO MORE FAIRLY DEAL WITH THE "DIFFICULT AND VEXATIOUS QUESTION" OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST SO THAT WEALTHY MEN WOULD "NOT BE REGARDED AS LACKING IN INTEGRITY" WHEN THEY TOOK GOVERNMENT POSTS.

CLARK SAID THAT THE INTERESTS OF MAJOR OIL COMPANIES TOO OFTEN COINCIDE WITH THOSE OF CIA, ESPECIALLY IN THE MIDDLE EAST. HE ALSO SAID MCCONE'S "POLICY OF BELLIGERENCE" TOWARD SOVIET RUSSIA WAS NOT IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF PEACE.

SYMINGTON SAID HE AGREED WITH MCCONE'S FIRM STAND AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION. HE ALSO SAID HE CONSIDERED MCCONE TO BE OF "A MORE JUDICIOUS TEMPERAMENT" THAN HIS CIA PREDECESSOR, ALLEN W. DULLES.

THE MISSOURI DEMOCRAT, A MEMBER OF THE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE WHICH UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED MCCONE, SAID IT WAS "MOST UNFAIR" TO IMPLY THAT THE NOMINEE "LACKS THE INTEGRITY TO PUT HIS STOCK IN TRUST" AND THAT HE "WOULD NOT BE WORKING IN THE INTERESTS OF THE COUNTRY."

SYMINGTON SAID MCCONE GAVE THE CIA GENERAL COUNSEL A LIST OF ALL HIS HOLDINGS AND ASKED FOR A WRITTEN OPINION AS TO WHETHER THEY WOULD CONSTITUTE ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST. THE COUNSEL SAID THEY DID NOT. SYMINGTON TOLD THE SENATE.

SEN. FRANCIS CASE, R-S.B., AN ARMED SERVICES MEMBER, QUESTIONED WHETHER MCCONE HAD PILED UP BIG PROFITS THROUGH SHIPPING INTERESTS OPERATING UNDER THE PANAMA AND NORWEGIAN FLAGS, THEREBY AVOIDING LIABILITY OF TAXES IN THE UNITED STATES.